work during the last two years in Rajasthan, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Nagaland, Bengal, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Tripura and Eastern and Western coastal offshore areas of the country. Exploratory drilling led to oil discoveries at the following places:—

Pakhajan	Gujarat
Kovilkalappal, Narimanam	Tamil Nadu
Kaikalur	Andhra Pradesh
D-18, B-172, CA, CD, R-71, R-7A, B-131	Bombay Offshore area

(b) Yes, Sir.

LPG produced in the country

580. SHRI F. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantum of LPG being produced in the country at present; and the number of consumers who have been given LPG connections so far; and

(b) the number of consumers who are in the waiting lists at present for new connections and, the measures being undertaken to expand the capacity of LPG plants and cover the waiting list of consumers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) The current annual production of LPG in the country is around 1.5 million tonnes. The number of domestic LPG connections in the country as on 1.1.87 was 119.38 lakhs.

(b) The number of persons on the waiting list as on 1.1.87 was 34.55 lakhs.

Bottling capacity in the country is being augmented through new plants and expansion of some existing ones. New connections in the range of 16 to 17 lakhs per year are being released by the oil companies.

Requirement of LPG cylinders

581. SHRI K. GOPALAN:

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the estimated requirement of LPG cylinders per month in the capital;

(b) what is the present supply of gas cylinders per month by the different bottling plants in the capital;

(c) whether there is any delay in replacing refills in the capital now;

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(e) what action is being taken by Government to normalise the LPG supply position in the capital?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) The average monthly demand of LPG cylinders in Delhi is about 8,50,000.

(b) The production capacity of oil industry's bottling plants in Delhi is around 6,80,000 per month which is utilised manily for supplies to Delhi. The shortfall is met by augmenting supplies from other bottling plants.

(c) to (e) Occasionally a backlog in supply of LPG refills develops due to factors such as operational and transport bottlenecks, seasonal increase in demand etc. In such situations the endeavour is to augment supplies from other sources to meet the demand.